

SSUDAC Meeting Summary

October 20th, 2016

Members Present: Brian Abramson, Diana Brown, Carmen Camacho, Dan Figueroa, David Fogel, Daniel Morales, Mel Tull

Members Absent:

Call to Order and Introductions:

- The meeting was called to order at 3:43 p.m.
- Members unanimously moved to appoint Brian Abramson committee chair, with a vice chair selection deferred to the November committee meeting.
- The October meeting summary was unanimously approved for the record.

Silver Spring Utilities

Tami Watkins, Pepco and Tom Gingrich, WSSC

- Tami Watkins of Pepco reported that the agency has been working to improve relationships with businesses and increase notifications about upcoming work. The Urban District suggested a monthly update on upcoming projects and completed work by Pepco could be utilized to help outreach.
- 20 Pepco projects are left for 2016 in the Silver Spring Urban District, with an October/November scheduled completion.
- Immediate Pepco projects for 2017 include the substation work near United Therapeutics.
- Tom Gingrich of WSSC noted that community outreach coordinators and project managers were the best people to contact at WSSC for specific project status updates.

8600 Georgia Avenue Hotel Project

Susan Reutershan, Lerch, Early & Brewer, Chtd.

- Susan Reutershan and colleagues discussed and outlined the hotel project planned for 8600 Georgia Ave. (currently a gas station). The project will be presented to the planning board in November.
- The hotel will be a suites hotel geared towards more long-term stays. The project currently stands at 147,000 square feet, with 14 floors consisting of 173 suites. These include studio, 1BR and 2BR suites.

- The hotel will have ground floor retail, possibly a restaurant and coffee shop, as well as a mural by a local artist on one outside wall. Other amenities include a rooftop terrace and fitness center. Parking will be one level of below-grade, with 28 spaces.
- Construction is slated to begin in Fall 2017, with operations expecting to commence in 2020.
- The committee unanimously moved to write a letter of support for the project.

Silver Spring Urban District Report

Richard Bingham, Chief of Operations, Silver Spring Urban District

- Mr. Bingham gave an update on the SSUD's primary contracts, including discussions of bringing trash collection and street sweeping in-house. Currently these tasks are performed by the Bethesda Urban Partnership.
- Other issues discussed were a timeline for tree removal and replacement, rat issues on Mayors Lane and a discussion of next steps regarding homelessness in the Urban District.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.